

EXERCISE 2 *Context Clues* 

Directions. Scan the definitions in Column A. Then, think about how the boldface words are used in the sentences in Column B. To complete the exercise, match each definition in Column A with the correct Vocabulary Word from Column B. Write the letter of your choice on the line provided. Finally, write the Vocabulary Word on the line before the definition.

COLUMN A

_____ 11. word: _____

n. a small, rounded hill; a mound

_____ 12. word: _____

n. a disaster; any happening that causes great distress or misery

_____ 13. word: _____

v. to mislead or delude someone, as by lying; to trick

_____ 14. word: _____

n. the quality or condition of being sincere; honesty; genuineness

_____ 15. word: _____

v. to perplex; to frustrate, hinder, or interfere with

_____ 16. word: _____

n. uncivilized, brutal behavior; cruelty; a nonstandard word or expression

_____ 17. word: _____

v. to misuse; to injure or damage through maltreatment; *n.* a misuse; cruel treatment or words

_____ 18. word: _____

n. something new or unusual; an innovation; newness; originality

_____ 19. word: _____

v. to confuse terribly; to puzzle

_____ 20. word: _____

n. unwritten stories, customs, sayings, and traditional beliefs of a culture; the study of these

COLUMN B

(A) Some American Indians used pictographs to record important events as well as the stories and customs that make up their **folklore**.

(B) In pictographs, small pictures or symbols tell a story. Some Indians represented the **calamity** of a smallpox outbreak as a human figure with a red body spotted in black.

(C) Acts of **barbarism** by a brutal enemy might be painted alongside tales of victory.

(D) When something new entered the scene, a symbol would be created. **Novelties** like wagons and trains needed new symbols.

(E) The simplicity of pictographs can **deceive** observers. Actually, these accounts are complex, and only experts can read them now.

(F) Some pictographic writing is no doubt meant to **baffle**, or perplex, would-be readers.

(G) One account of the Battle of the Little Big Horn did not note General Custer's death. One reason may have been fear of revenge or further **abuse** and cruel treatment by the U.S. forces.

(H) Standing on a **knoll**, where the slightly higher ground improved visibility, a person could use smoke to signal people far away.

(I) Face paint or the way a blanket was worn might signal anger or love. The **sincerity** of such emotions would be difficult to doubt since the wearer was purposefully displaying his or her feelings.

(J) These and other ways of communicating may **bewilder** a nonnative speaker. However, American Indians were taught the different signs early and were not confused by them.

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8th Grade

EXERCISE 3

Like Meanings and Opposite Meanings 

Directions. For each item below, circle the letter of the choice that means the same, or about the same, as the boldface word.

- 21. studying folklore**
 (A) famous people
 (B) modern history
 (C) manners
 (D) oral tradition
- 22. baffle our enemies**
 (A) crush
 (B) confuse
 (C) fight
 (D) plan
- 23. deceive their friends**
 (A) invite
 (B) entertain
 (C) mislead
 (D) leave

- 24. a low knoll**
 (A) mound
 (B) intelligence
 (C) forehead
 (D) expectation
- 25. an interesting novelty**
 (A) type of literature
 (B) new item
 (C) distant star
 (D) large sign

Directions. For each item below, circle the letter of the choice that means the opposite, or about the opposite, of the boldface word.

- 26. in all sincerity**
 (A) hopelessness
 (B) haste
 (C) dishonesty
 (D) anger
- 27. bewilder the newcomer**
 (A) make clear to
 (B) civilize
 (C) entertain
 (D) seem strange to
- 28. to abuse equipment**
 (A) borrow
 (B) damage
 (C) care for
 (D) return

- 29. a surprising calamity**
 (A) expense
 (B) disaster
 (C) good fortune
 (D) excitement
- 30. a recent barbarism**
 (A) civil gesture
 (B) poem
 (C) quotation
 (D) modern invention